



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Director of Beaches and Harbors

At its meeting held January 4, 2005, the Board took the following action:

84-A

Supervisor Knabe made the following statement:

“The Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (LARWQCB) has indicated that at its January 27, 2005 meeting it plans to consider approval of staff recommendations to require certain private and publicly operated marinas in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties provide additional boater sewage disposal facilities. The LARWQCB staff report recommends that 22 additional pump-out and 21 additional dump stations (for emptying of vessel holding tanks) be provided in Marina del Rey within a one to two-year period, or alternatively, that contracted mobile pump-out services be provided for all vessels berthed in the Marina. LARWQCB has also scheduled a ‘public workshop’ on January 6, 2005, to consider ‘verbal comments’ on its staff recommendations.

“No notification of the proposed January 27, 2005 consideration of the staff report of the January 6, 2005 ‘workshop’ was delivered to the County, the Department of Beaches Harbors (DBH), the Sheriff’s Harbor Master for Marina del Rey or affected Marina lessees to allow for written comment on these proposals. Moreover, the proposed actions were only recently brought to the County’s attention by concerned Ventura County marina operators who then informally contacted the Department of Beaches and Harbors. The LARWQCB website does not contain notice of the proposed consideration of the regulations, the proposed workshop, or the staff report relating to the recommendations and, thus, does not provide appropriate public notice to the County, operators of Marina del Rey anchorages or other affected parties. Information regarding these actions does not appear to be easily accessible to potentially affected or interested parties or the public.

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“Data collected and analyzed by DBH and its consultants relating both to current usage of existing pump-out and other boater sewage disposal facilities in Marina del Rey, as well as continuous water quality analyses within the Marina, indicates that the proposed regulations may be premature, without justification and, at a minimum, deserving of further study, analysis and public input prior to consideration for adoption and/or implementation. The collected and analyzed data suggests that there currently exists in Marina del Rey substantial unused pump-out station capacity, a high level of boater compliance with regulations relating to disposal of waste, and that the incidence of degraded water quality are most prevalent in areas adjacent to Ballona Creek and the Oxford Flood Basin. Such facts strongly suggest that these water conditions are due to urban stormwater runoff emanating from such sources, rather than from the effects of the boater activity which is the target of the proposed LARWQCB requirements.”

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Knabe, seconded by Supervisor Burke, unanimously carried, the Board took the following actions:

1. Instructed the Director of Beaches and Harbors to appear at the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (LARWQCB) workshop scheduled for January 6, 2005, to express the Board's position relating to consideration of the proposed regulations, which would require certain private and publicly operated marinas in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties to provide additional boater sewage disposal facilities and to urge that further study and opportunity for input from the County, affected Marina del Rey lessees and members of the public be provided; and
2. Authorized the Director of Beaches and Harbors to take the following related actions:
  - Furnish LARWQCB with information relating to the findings and analysis of the Department of Beaches and Harbors and its consultants, as well as apprise LARWQCB of the efforts currently underway by the Departments of Beaches and Harbors, Public Works and other County and governmental agencies to identify and address both water quality and the availability of pump-out and other sanitary facilities in Marina del Rey; and

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- Urge LARWQCB to consider and coordinate its efforts with the County, including the Departments of Beaches of Harbors and Public Works to more effectively and efficiently work toward the utilization of resources to address the shared concern that the water quality of Marina del Rey be preserved and improved.

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Chief Administrative Officer  
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